

21 June 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Richard C. Tufaro
The White House

SUBJECT : Clay Blair Request for Declassification
of Japanese Code Documents

You have requested our further comment on this matter, in particular with respect to Mr. Winnacker's letter of 30 April 1973 to you. Mr. Winnacker poses the question of whether the documents in question "remain within 'the system' after 30 years, or, in Clay Blair's case, through 1945."

As you know the Executive Order provides that all classified documents in existence on the effective date of the Order (1 June 1972) which are 30 years old remain classified until, by decision of appropriate authority, they are declassified. As we stated in our letter of 10 April 1973 to you, it is our opinion that [redacted] prescribes controls on access and use of relevant information which is classified, but in no way impinges on the authority of departments under E.O. 11652 to classify and declassify.

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Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel